Columbia/Snake River Temperature TMDL Meeting Feb 4, 2003 - Boise, ID

Attendance List

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Columbia/Snake River Temperature TMDL Feb 4, 2003 Meeting EPA and FCRPS Action Agencies Technical Discussion Outline

- Water Temperature coming in from Canada may have been warmed by the Canadian Projects.
 - Figure 1 summarizes water temperature at the Canadian Border roughly before and after construction of the Canadian Dams.
 - The later period does have warmer temperatures: up to 2°C.
 - Data quality is very poor, especially for the later period.
 - It isn't clear how much of the difference results from Canadian projects versus climate.
 - The second time period appears to have been during a warmer, low flow climate regime while the first period was part of a cooler, wetter regime.
 - Canadian data on the Frazier River indicates that it has warmed up about 0.9 °C in the last 40 years.
 - Figures 2-4 demonstrate the effects on river temperature if the Canadian inflows are lowered 2 °C.
 - Figure 5 demonstrates how equilibrium temperature tends to attenuate the downstream temperature differences caused by different inflow temperatures.
- II. Tributary inflows are nearly 80% of the inflow from Canada. Shouldn't they have a larger effect on temperature?
 - Figure 6 demonstrates how equilibrium temperature tends to attenuate the downstream temperature effects of tributaries.
 - Model shows a number of different scenarios.
- III. What is the statistical uncertainty around model simulations used for the TMDL?
 - Figures 7-9 demonstrate the 90 % confidence range for Bonneville, Priest Rapids and Ice Harbor around the difference: simulated values - observed values.
- IV. If a WA only TMDL was done, would the effect on dams be as great?
 - To meet the 1.1 °C increase when site potential temperature is less than criteria in the lower river reaches, each dam could increase water temperature about 0.12 °C.
 - When site potential is over criteria the total allowed increase is 0.3 °C as opposed to 0.14 with the OR standard. We haven't done the analysis but each dam would probably be allocated about 0.02 to 0.04 °C

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